

darkening your counsel by words without wisdom ; but tell all men, everywhere, that you bring them "glad tidings of great joy," that God is in Christ, able, willing, waiting, longing, to save them all. In order to this, study God's Word carefully ; be men of one book. Let the Bible be your central sun ; see that you know it well. Value other books only as they help you to understand this—be like the early Methodist preachers, mighty in the Scriptures. Meditate upon it day and night—study it on your knees—get at the hidden meaning—let the secret of the Lord be with you, the power from on high—honour God's Word, and He will honour you.

Preach it *earnestly*. Saved yourselves, let it be the business of your life to save others. Let yours be no official life, no perfunctory service. A cold, dull, merely intellectual sermon, is out of place in any pulpit, but especially in ours. Think of the interests involved in the right discharge of your duty. Think of the value of the soul—of its peril—of its possibilities of agony, and of bliss. Think of the multitudes around you who never open a Bible, or bend a knee, or breathe a prayer. Think of the hell to which they are hastening, of the heaven which is open to receive them. Think of what Christ has done to make their salvation possible ; of the anxiety of God for their salvation ; of the presence, and marvellous work, of the Holy Spirit, to lead them to come to Christ, and heaven. See heaven open, and hell open ; try to realize the fearful position of those to whom you are speaking, and let your eyes affect your heart. Be miserable if souls are not saved. Give God no rest till He clothes you with salvation ; and when you enter the pulpit,

"Preach as if you ne'er would preach again,
And as a dying man to dying men."

Preach it *tenderly*. This is involved in what I have just said ; but I want to impress it upon you, because I